THE EXAMINER.

No. 222 SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 1812

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 216.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGENCY.

In default of being ready with the article which was promised for this week on Mr. HORNE TOOKE, and the materials of which have grown upon me beyond what I expected, I return with many sighs and other symptoms of weariness to the old subject. Nothing has occurred during the past week to brighten the prospects we have at Court: no anecdote has transpired of an alteration for the better; no appearance of a regard for reputation visited our desponding eyes; no gleam of imaginable sunshine darted through the fog that encloses the high places and that screens from dangerous curiosity the grinning and obscene idols which have turned the heart of our new SOLOMON. All is mystery, hopelessness, and contempt.

Let us take a glance at the proceedings of the Regency for the last six days. On Monday a debate took place in the House of Commons on the PRINCE's Message respecting a Provision for the PRINCESSES. These Ladies, it is to be observed, have hitherto lived with their Parents, as became their sex and condition; and a separation of their interests was never even contemplated as possible except in case of his MAJESTY's demise, in prospect of which event an act was passed in the 18th of the present reign, to empower him to leave an annuity to each of the four Princesses then living of seven thousand five hundred pounds. The Minister however, in compliance no doubt with suggestions in one quarter where he has an interest in reserve, as well as with the message from another where any thing like a dependence for money must be extremely inconvenient, chooses to regard his MAJESTY's demise as having already taken place, —that is to say, in this one respect, for in every thing else he is anxious to remind us, and no doubt to remind his Master also, that the KING is alive and strong and may one day return to the discharge of his office. At the same time, he is brought to confess, that he has no knowledge of any intended separation on the part of the PRINCESSES, so that the whole origin of the motion is clear enough:—there is no demise on the part of the KING: there is even a Court about him still, and the bonds of connection with his family are drawn stronger, or ought to be so, by the very circumstance that has enabled the Minister to take this advantage; but there is now an opportunity, it appears, by turning this circumstance into a demise, to add to the stock in hand among the Ladies of the Royal Family; and the REGENT, who must by this time have a perfect horror of calls upon him for money, is doubtless as anxious as themselves that they should be quite independent even of imaginary necessities, and deprived of all motives to enquiry into the state and uses of his mysterious Exchequer. Now the question is, not exactly why the PRINCESSES should choose this time of all others for a demand of such a nature,—nor why, with their additional motives to live with each other and comfort their Parents, they should suggest an intention to the contrary,—nor whether the nation, in spite of it's difficulties, would grudge them the means of putting such an intention into effect,—but **why**, in voting so much money the other day to her MAJESTY and the PRINCE REGENT, we were left to conclude that the PRINCESSES were concerned in the vote?—and what are the real applications of the money so voted, if sufficient cannot be afforded out of it to relieve us at present from this additional burden?—These questions were put to Mr. PERCEVAL in the course of the debate, but he had nothing to answer, except that the QUEEN really had enough to do with her money, and the PRINCE REGENT with his; and as it is not necessary, now-a-days, for a Minister to make satisfactory answers, or any answers at all, to what is put to him in Parliament, the motion was carried without a division. The Right Hon. Gentleman however did not escape so easily from the debate as he might have expected, for in canvassing these pecuniary provisions, the name of the Princess of WALES was introduced, and a very natural astonishment expressed at the neglect shewn to the wife of the PRINCE REGENT on this and all other matters which arose out of the new order of things, particularly as Mr. PERCEVAL himself had taken singular pains, on a certain occasion, to exhibit himself as her champion against reproach. The Minister was still more anxious, if possible, to avoid explanation on this head than on the others, and peevishly denied his obligation to account to his questioners for any former part of his public conduct. Some sort of notice however he could not avoid taking of the subject, in common decency; and therefore, while he affected to see nothing singular in the omission of her Royal Highness's name on these occasions, he explicitly declared, that nothing whatever had appeared on the well-known "Investigation" to warrant the smallest stigma upon her character. The PRINCESS REGENT, it seems, with the exception of 5000*l.* a-year for pin-money, is entirely dependent upon her husband, who upon a representation made to him in the year 1809, is said to have increased her ROYAL HIGHNESS's annual allowance from 12 to 17,000*l.* and at the same time undertook to discharge her debts, which amounted to the extraordinary sum of 41,000*l.* Whether the increase, in point of fact, ever took place, or whether the debts were really discharged, remains a secret; for it appears, that at the very time when his ROYAL HIGHNESS was undertaking to hinder

the necessity of unpleasant disclosures in these points, and talking, as Mr. PERCEVAL informs us, of not adding to the national burdens, he was calling upon the people, as of old, to help him out of his own embarrassments. It is not even ascertainable, as Mr. WHITBREAD observed, whether any part of the 70,000*l.* a-year which was designed for the discharge of the PRINCE's debts, has been applied to that purpose: his creditors have no security for it; the Commissioners appointed to manage it, were created and absolvable by the PRINCE; there is "nobody answerable for the due application of the enormous sum of 130,000*l.* which had been given as a privy purse without controul." —Thus the nation from whose pains-taking, and sufferance, and annoyance, all this money is derived, have no means of conjecturing whether the two personages, who are to be their future King and Queen, are or ever will be free from the most wanton and pernicious embarrassments, or at what period a termination will be put to those repeated and disgraceful calls for money, which really seem to humiliate and abash every body else but the callers. Two things are certain;—1st,—That whatever the PRINCE REGENT may have to shew for his debts in point of absolute expenditure, he has nothing at all to shew for a fiftieth part of them in point of necessity or a princely spirit; and 2nd, That however the manners of the PRINCESS REGENT, her visits on board-ship, &c. may clash with English notions of what is feminine and dignified, her husband's Minister has publicly proclaimed her without reproach, and therefore her present neglected situation is, on every account, scandalous and unwarrantable.

So much for Monday and its appearances. A Correspondent informs me of a remarkable circumstance which took place at the close of the debate on Tuesday, and which appears to have escaped the daily papers on account of the lateness of the hour. It was an "attack on the PRINCE REGENT for refusing access to his petitioning and suffering people," and is described as creating a sensation which amounted to "violence and even uproar."—"Can there be," continues our Correspondent, "a worse sign of the times, than a Sovereign refusing access to the just complaints of his people, and at the same time surrounding his person with foreign troops!" Portentous indeed! though the public have been sufficiently prepared for it of late years, and will not be astonished to find that what began in one kind of insanity is continued by another. Yet the latter perhaps, though in greater possession of reason, has less of intention in such proceedings: and the more they arise from pure impotence of conduct, and easiness to bad influence, the more are the Aristocracy who view them with jealousy, and the Democracy who view them with scorn and indignation, thrown back upon their own guiltiness, in suffering every creature of a Minister to lord it over a set of false Representatives upon the mere strength of divisions between the two. "The distance towards the many and favouritism towards the few which have been practised in the reign now departing, will naturally be continued in the one that is approaching, though from a very different cause. What GEORGE the Third did from a love of management, quickened perhaps and in some measure excused by a constitutional peculiarity, GEORGE the Fourth will do from a sheer love of ease, and from a set of bad nerves equally abhorrent of complaint and mistrustful of opinion. And how are we to prepare ourselves to meet annoyances of this nature, and to let them have as little sway as they can? Why, by the only method left us;—by trying to set our constitution once more above the chill of every petty coldness;—by giving it its former strength and consciousness, and finding our limbs again;—by restoring the natural union between the members of our body, and not suffering the head to grow to an idle and idiotical hugeness, that shall make it hang upon the next limbs for support and drain up all the vitality from beneath;—in a word, by uniting aristocracy and democracy against a corruption that has outgrown the influence of both, and once more returning a set of Representatives that shall really personate the general body and utter the general voice. I have called the present state of things hopeless; and the feelings, at least, will sometimes be so, whether they ought to be or not; but nothing should be hopeless to a sense of duty:—times often change at their very worst, because they are at their worst;—and it does appear to me, that out of the present afflicting circumstances, this opportunity of retrieving our Constitution is really discernible by undisturbed eyes, and may be extracted by a last, united effort of the hands above mentioned. If it cannot, things must evidently take their course and be as bad as they please; for the remonstrance that cannot reform them, will but add to their pride and obstinacy:—but if it can,—and it is highly doubtful at what point of time a true Englishman should tell himself it cannot,—then it becomes every one, who feels for his countrymen, to act accordingly; and the WHITBREADS, and the BROUGHAMS, and other intelligent and active spirits, who in point of connexion and sentiment compose the link between the two ranks of Whig and Reformist, could not possibly do better than by giving up immediately all subordinate questions of state policy, and drawing the repeated attention of Parliament and People to their vital concern.

These are the occurrences of greatest interest with respect to the REGENT in the course of the past week. On Thursday, his ROYAL HIGHNESS decorated a personage called the Duke of MONTROSE with the Garter that was intended, according to the *Morning Chronicle*, for his old and fast friend the Earl of MOIRA. The rest of the week he spent, of course, in the usual manner, with the usual society; and to morrow he goes to St. James's Chapel *to receive the Sacrament!*

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Baron TUYL is promoted over the heads of six hundred British officers, to the command of a regiment. He has the good fortune to have the Duke of CUMBERLAND for his patron!

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

CONSERVATIVE SENATE.

At the Sitting of March 10, his Excellency the Duke of Bassano, Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicated the following

REPORT OF THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR AND KING.

"SIRE,—The maritime rights of neutrals, so solemnly fixed by the treaty of Utrecht, became the common law of nations. This law, completely renewed in all subsequent treaties, has consecrated the principles which I am going to state. The flag covers the merchandize. Enemy's goods, under a neutral flag, are neutral; as neutral property, under an enemy's flag, is considered as belonging to an enemy. Contraband articles are the only property which a neutral flag does not cover; arms and warlike stores alone are contraband. All visiting of a neutral vessel by an armed ship can be made by a small number of men only, the armed ship keeping without cannon shot. Every neutral ship may trade from an enemy's port to an enemy's port, and from an enemy's port to a neutral one. The only ports excepted are those really blockaded; and ports really blockaded are those invested, besieged, likely to be taken, and into which a merchantman could not enter without danger.

"Such are the obligations of belligerents towards neutral powers: such are the reciprocal rights of either party; such are the maxims consecrated by those treaties which form the public right of nations. Frequently has England dared to attempt substituting in their place arbitrary and tyrannical regulations. Her unjust pretensions were repelled by all Governments sensible to the voice of honour and the interests of their subjects. She constantly found herself forced to acknowledge in her treaties the principles she wished to destroy; and when the peace of Amiens was violated, the maritime legislation still remained upon its ancient basis.

"By a serigs of events, the English marine became more numerous than all the force of the other maritime powers. England then thought the moment was arrived when, having nothing to fear, she might dare to do every thing: she immediately resolved to subject the navigation of all seas to the same laws as those of the Thames. It was in 1806 she began the execution of that system, which tended to bend the common law of nations before the Orders of Council and the regulations of the London Admiralty. The declaration of the 16th of May annihilated by one single word the rights of all maritime states—placed under an interdict vast coasts and whole empires. From this moment England no longer acknowledged any neutrals upon the seas.—The Decrees of 1807 imposed upon every vessel the obligation of touching at an English port, whatever her destination might be, to pay a tribute to England, and submit her cargoes to the tarifs of her customs. By the declaration of 1806, all navigation had been interdicted to neutrals; by the Decrees of 1807, the power of navigating was restored to them; but they could use it only for the common utility of English commerce, in the combination of its interests and its people.

"The English Government thus tore off the mask with which it had covered its projects—proclaimed the universal dominion of the seas,—regarded all nations as its tributaries—and imposed upon the Continent the expences of the war which it maintained against it.

"These unheard of measures excited a general indignation among the Powers who preserved the sentiments of their independence and their rights; but in London they raised the national pride to the highest pitch; they held out to the English people a future prospect, rich in the most brilliant hopes. Their commerce, their industry, were henceforth to be without opposition; the produce of the two worlds was to flow into their ports—pay homage to the maritime and commercial sovereignty of England, by paying tribute—and afterwards arrive to other nations, loaded with the enormous expences from which English merchandizes alone would be free.

"Your Majesty, at a single glance, perceived the evils with which the Continent was threatened. You instantly applied the remedy. You annihilated by your Decrees this pompous, unjust attack upon the independence of every state and the rights of all nations. The Berlin Decree answered the declaration of 1806. The blockade of the British islands was opposed to the imaginary blockade established by England. The Milan Decree answered the Orders of 1807: it declared *delationalised* every neutral vessel that submitted to English legislation, either by touching at a British port, or paying tribute to England, and which thus renounced the independence and rights of its flag. All merchandize proceeding either from British commerce or industry, was blockaded in the Britannic islands; the continental system banished them from the Continent.

"Never did any act of reprisals attain its object in a more prompt, certain, and victorious manner. The Berlin and Milan Decrees turned against England the arms she had directed against universal commerce. That source of commercial prosperity which she believed to be abundant, became a source of calamities to British commerce: in place of those tributes which were to have enriched the Treasury, her credit was deteriorated, hurting the fortune of the State and that of individuals.

"As soon as your Majesty's Decrees appeared, all the Continent foresaw that such would be their result if they received full execution; but, however accustomed Europe was to see success crown your enterprises, she could scarcely conceive by what new prodigies your Majesty would realize the great designs which have been so rapidly accomplished. Your Majesty armed yourself with all your power; nothing could divert you from your intention; Holland, the Hanseatic towns, the coasts that unite the Zuyderzee to the Baltic sea, were united to France, and subjected to the same administration and the same regulations,—the immediate and inevitable consequence of the legislation of the English Government. No kind of considerations could balance in the mind of your Majesty the first interest of your Empire.

"You did not wait long to reap the advantage of this important resolution. In fifteen months, that is to say, since the *Senatus Consultum* of reunion, your Majesty's Decrees have weighed with all their force upon England. She flattered herself with invading the commerce of the entire world; and her commerce, become speculation, does nothing but by means of 20,000 licenses, delivered each year. Forced to obey the law of necessity, she thus renounces her act of navigation, the principal foundation of her power. She pretended to the universal dominion of the seas; and navigation is interdicted,—her vessels shut out from all the continental ports.—She wished to enrich her Treasury by the tributes which Europe would pay; and Europe has not only freed itself from her unjust pretensions, but from the tributes it would have paid her industry. Her manufacturing towns are become deserts; distress has succeeded a prosperity hitherto increasing; an alarming disappearance of money, and the absolute want of employment, daily disturb the public tranquillity. Such have been to England the consequences of her imprudent attempts. She already perceives, and will daily more and more discover, that there is no salvation for her but in a return to justice, and to the principle of the rights of nations; and that she can only participate in the benefit of the neutrality of ports, inasmuch as she allows neutrals to benefit by the neutrality of their flag. But till the British Orders of Council are rescinded, and the principles of the treaty of Utrecht towards neutrals are again in full vigour, the Berlin and Milan Decrees will remain against those Powers who allow their flag to be denationalised. The ports of the Continent shall not be open either to denationalised flags or British merchandize.

"It must not be dissembled, that to maintain in full vigour this grand system, it will be necessary that your Majesty employ all the powerful means which belong to your empire; and find in your subjects that assistance which you have never yet in vain demanded of them. It is necessary that all the disposable French forces should march to whatever places where the English or *denationalised* flag attempted to land. A special army charged exclusively with guarding our vast extent of coasts, our maritime arsenals, and the triple range of fortresses which cover our frontiers, will answer to your Majesty for the safety of the territory confided to their valour and fidelity. You will send to their

fortunate destiny those brave men accustomed to fight and to conquer under the eyes of your Majesty,—to defend the political rights and exterior safety of the empire. The depots even of the corps will not be turned from the useful destination of supporting your active armies. The forces of your Majesty will thus always be maintained upon the most formidable footing, and the French territory protected by an establishment which interest dictates; the policy and dignity of the empire will be placed in such a situation, as to entitle it more than ever to deserve the title of inviolable and sacred.

"For a considerable time the English Government has proclaimed everlasting war,—a frightful project, which the wildest ambition could never really have intended, and which presumptuous boasting alone allowed to escape; a frightful project, which nevertheless will be realized, if France is but to expect engagements without guarantee,—of uncertain duration, and more disastrous than war itself.

"Peace, Sire, which in the midst of your immense power has been so often offered to your enemies, will crown your glorious works, if England, banished from the Continent with perseverance, and separated from all the States whose independence she has violated, consents to return to those principles upon which European society is founded—acknowledges the Law of Nations—and respects the sacred rights consecrated by the treaty of Utrecht.

"In the mean time the French nation must remain armed; honour commands it; the interest, the rights, the independence of the people, engaged in the same cause, demand it; and an oracle still more certain, often delivered even from the mouth of your Majesty, constitutes it an imperious and sacred law."

[Here follows the Plan, approved by the Senate, for the levy of 100 Cohorts, from the first class of the National Guard. This force will amount to 100,000 men, who are to be constantly encamped in the interior.—"By this means," (says a Report from the War Minister) "our strong places on the Rhine, our establishments at the Helder, upon the Meuse, the Scheldt, at Boulogne, Cherbourg, Brest, L'Orient, Rochfort, Toulon, and Genoa, would be guarded by a combination of such force, that in five days 30,000 men could be collected at any particular point of the coast attacked; and in less than ten days, considering the speedy means which your Majesty has established in urgent circumstances, from 60 to 80,000 men would march to the point menaced. This in reality will be equivalent to an augmentation of the troops of the line. It is placing 100,000 more Frenchman under the banners of your Majesty. It will likewise cause an increase in expence of 48 milligns; but this expence cannot be placed in competition with the immese advantages which must result from it. This institution is eminently conservative and national: it is useful and necessary. Frenchmen are willing to make every sacrifice to acquire the liberty of the seas; they know that they must be armed, or this grand measure will not be accomplished."]

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon, March 1.—Head quarters were at Frenada on the 26th, but if we are to believe reports, they are to be this day at Elvas. Badajoz is very strong, and no doubt will make a most vigorous resistance: but unless a very powerful army comes to its relief, it must soon fall. The ordnance, &c. as well as all the army, are in full march for Alentejo; two divisions are this day crossing the Tagus at Villa Velha and Abrantes.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

ASSIZES.

Suffolk, March 21.—*Edward Thrower* was indicted for the murder of Elizabeth Carter, on the 16th October, 1793. This prisoner was brought to justice by a chapter of accidents. He confessed the murder to one Heads, soon after it was committed; but Heads knew he was so much given to speaking falsehoods that he disbelieved him. The murder is just similar to that of the Marr and Williamson families. The prisoner went alone and knocked out the brains of Elizabeth Carter, as she was fastening her window shutter, and then he went into the house and killed her father in a similar manner, whilst the old man was sitting in his arm chair. Some years after this, Heads, who had never before heard from any one but the prisoner that a murder of that sort had been committed, heard a brother felon in Norwich gaol lamenting that he had always been suspected of that murder unjustly, and Heads recollected the confession the prisoner had made to him several years ago, of which he made depositions before two Magistrates eleven years since, but Thrower was supposed to be dead. There is a common observation, that "Murder will out," and the manner by which the prisoner was brought to justice is extremely singular. At the time of the national alarm at the horrid murders of the Marr and Williamson families, Mr. Archdeacon Oldershaw, a Magistrate, was observing to Mr. Fox, in common conversation, that a murder resembling those occurred at Cratfield nineteen years ago, and in mentioning his taking the depositions of Heads, he observed that Thrower was suspected, but he never was found. Now, Mr. Fox had a legacy to pay Thrower's wife, which could not be done without her husband's signature, and through this incident the prisoner was taken into custody, as well as Heads, both of whom had been transported. Heads, in his evidence, told the same story he had done eleven years ago, of the prisoner's confession, and a person proved having heard a female shriek on the night of the murder, and that he saw a man run from the house. The body of the young woman was proved to have been found in the garden, which corroborated Head's story. There being other strong circumstantial evidence, the prisoner was found *Guilty*, and ordered for execution and afterwards to be dissected.

John Smith, aged 39, and *Elizabeth* his wife, aged 27, were indicted for the wilful murder of Mary Anne Smith, daughter of the male prisoner, by starvation, beating, and exposing her three successive nights in a shed, in December last. It appeared that the male prisoner had three children by a former wife, who died about three years ago, and he married the female prisoner last November, and from the 10th of December until the 11th of February, 1812, when the eldest of the three children, the subject of this indictment, died, the tortures administered to them were too horrible even for description. Previous to his marriage the three children were admired by every one for their cleanliness and ruby cheeks, and the male prisoner was marked for his parental kindness and affection towards his offspring.—*Lucy Smith*, sister of the male prisoner, proved that on the 5th of February, the male prisoner called on her in tears, and said the eldest child was dying. Witness found two of the once healthy children sitting by the fire in a state so completely emaciated, that they appeared indifferent to any objects. On going up stairs a shocking object presented itself in the person of the eldest child, in bed, who was unable to stir from her emaciated state, and she was the picture of death. The poor child called out "Aunt, aunt, don't leave me." Witness challenged them with starving the children, and they agreed that they had not much drink. It also appeared afterwards, that the child's feet were in a state of mortification, from having been exposed three nights in an out-house, by the father. She was also much bruised about the neck and body by beatings, and her father confessed having hung her up to a beam by the middle, without cause. The other two children were in a shocking state.—*Mrs. Clark* proved completely that the children were all in a state of starvation. She often carried them cake and a little wine, which they all ravenously devoured.—Three Surgeons gave it as their opinion, that the child died from barbarous treatment and want of food. No disclosure of the mortified feet was made, until it was found the child could not be saved; and one witness stated that the female prisoner had said they could live better without the children.—To enter into a minute description of the barbarities towards the children would fill a volume. They were of the ages of four, seven, and nine years. The male prisoner was universally allowed to have been a kind father and husband, until his second marriage, and to such extent that he was particularly noted by many country gentlemen, some of whom spoke

on this occasion.—The prisoners were found *Guilty*, and ordered for execution.

YORK.—A curious trial, in which the Rev. R. Gilbert was plaintiff, and Sir M. M. Sykes, Bart. M.P. defendant, came on for the recovery of a bet on the life of Bonaparte; the condition of which was, that the plaintiff on paying 100 guineas, should receive one guinea per day so long as Bonaparte should live. For near three years the defendant continued to pay the stipulated sum. It was contended on the part of the defendant, that the offer made by Sir M. Sykes "to receive 100 guineas to pay one guinea a day during the life of Bonaparte," was a hasty expression in a moment of conviviality, and anxiously caught by the Rev. Divine, in the language of any common five-guinea better on a race-course, who hailed him with—"Will you, Sir Mark? I'll take you—*done!*" Mr. Gilbert did, indeed, when he found the feeling of the company against this bet, say, "If you will submit, Sir Mark, to ask it as a favour, you may be off." Mr. TOPPING said, he should contend that the proposal of Sir Mark was not meant as a serious bet; and, if this should be the opinion of the Jury, he would be entitled to a verdict; but if it should be thought a real wager, he should then submit some observations on the law of the case, and contend that in the event of an invasion an interest might be revealed in this wager inconsistent with the public safety.—"Putting the case," said Mr. TOPPING, "that Bonaparte should, at the head of his army, succeed in effecting a descent upon this country, it is clear that the plaintiff would have an interest in protecting that life, which every true subject and friend of his country would be interested in destroying; he would have an annuity of 365 guineas per annum depending on the personal safety of this inveterate foe.—The Judge then proceeded to state the evidence to the Jury, with his observations upon it, leaving them to decide on the fact—whether there was any intention of betting on the part of Sir Mark Sykes, and reserving the point of law.—The Jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

BURY, MARCH 21.—A singular cause was heard here in an action, Archer *v.* Hinches, in which damages were laid at 1000*l.* It appeared that Miss Eliza Archer was the daughter of a respectable attorney, in Suffolk, and the defendant was a young gentleman of most respectable family in Essex.—The parties had first seen each other when the young lady was on a visit at a friend's house, where the defendant first made professions of attachment. The lady consulted her friends, and Mr. Hinches was cordially received by her father. His professions were most honourable, and after several months' intimacy, when on the point of marriage even, and arrangements having been made for that purpose, the defendant became suddenly enamoured of Miss Susan Archer, a younger sister of the plaintiff's, and he frankly assured the latter of his inability to marry her on that score.—Mr. Serjeant BLOSSETT, on the part of the defendant, observed, that his client had become the victim of an unfortunate attachment. He entered into a warm panegyric on the virtues of the plaintiff, whom he described as an ornament to her sex. His client was as anxious as the ladies friends that the world should know the motives which led to the breach of attachment. The defendant had become most passionately enamoured with the plaintiff's younger sister, and that was the sole motive of the breach of promise, as he expressed himself unable ever to make the plaintiff happy in wedlock after the second attachment to one so nearly allied to her.—The matter ended in a compromise satisfactory to all parties.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

There was nothing of moment before this House last week. It has adjourned till Tuesday, April 7.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 23.

TRADE OF LIVERPOOL.

General TARLETON presented a Petition from certain Merchants, Ship-owners, and Traders of the town of Liverpool, against the renewal of the East India Charter, praying for an Abolition of the East India Trade Monopoly. The Hon. General stated that the Petition was signed by upwards of 4000 persons, in one of the largest assemblies which had ever been convened in that town.

Mr. CREEVEY did not rise to oppose it. On the contrary, he would be glad to see it on the table. He merely rose to correct a misrepresentation of the Hon. General's, with respect to the actual situation of the people of the town, and to maintain that the statement which he (Mr. C.) had originally made of their distresses, was the true statement of their condition. He had stated, and he now repeated it, that in the course of one month only, the number of poor had increased from 8000 to 15,000 persons. To shew the vast decrease in the trade, he had a document from the Customs which stated the exports for the last two years for that town. In the year preceding the last the amount was 2,676,000*l.* In the last year 1,770,000*l.* being a deficiency of about nine hundred thousand pounds between the two years. In addition to the distress occasioned by the absence of trade, there were distresses of another kind connected with the Collection of the Taxes. He understood that an Attorney of the town (a Mr. Parfit,) perhaps not the most eminent in his profession, finding business not coming in, had made application to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and got converted into an Inspector of the district. In this new character he suggested to his Right Hon. Friend, as his fellow townsmen would not employ him, that the revenue would be greatly improved by surcharging them on their assessments generally. The consequence of these surcharges was a general manifestation of discontent throughout the town, and an alarm among the Collectors of Taxes. The Surveyor of the district finding he could not discharge the trust reposed in him faithfully under the new Inspector, resigned his office, and others were about to follow or had followed his example.

Mr. ROSE was not prepared for the statements of the Hon. Gentleman. He was however not disposed to deny, that Liverpool, in common with other great towns, had felt decay of trade.

General TARLETON said that the statement of his Hon. Friend (Mr. Creevy) was not correct. These documents, which he read, were furnished by the Committee at Liverpool, to refute what his Hon. Friend had asserted in his place; and stated, that with respect to the situation of the inhabitants of Liverpool, relief had been afforded, and *some of them* receiving tickets, had pawned them, not to procure provisions, but to obtain admission into the Theatre; that labourers might have employ at the rate of 3*s.* per day, but they refused.

Mr. A. BARING observed, that whether the present system was right or wrong, was not the question now, but the fact was, the trade of Liverpool was injured to an enormous extent in consequence, so also were the Potteries in Staffordshire, the Salt Work in Cheshire, and the trade of Manchester.

Mr. PERCEVAL conceived the House would not think he acted correctly, were he to allow the observation of the Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Creevey) to pass unnoticed. It would become the Hon. Gentleman, before he roundly asserted any thing for fact, a little to suspect the accuracy of his informant, especially when that informant was a discarded Surveyor.—The tone and insinuation of the Hon. Gentleman implied more than was really said in words. If he (Mr. Perceval) had made a bargain with an old client, as was insinuated, would not the Hon. Gentleman have acted more fairly, if he had made it the subject of a grave charge against him, for an act, as unworthy a one as could be well imagined? With respect to surcharges generally, there was no intention of making any such agreement, and until the persons making the surcharges were examined, it was the greatest assumption which the Hon. Gentleman could take upon himself to suppose they were wrong. Was it not right that persons assessed should pay their just proportion to the expence of the State; and therefore if they kept back, was it not equitable too, that they should be charged to the extent of their liability to pay? The Right Hon. Gentleman deprecated the practice of making false statements of the trade and resources of the country, as injurious in the highest degree.

Mr. CREEVEY denied that he had received his information from a discarded Collector

The Petition was then laid on the table.

Geo. TARLETON presented two other Petitions on the same subject from the Corporation.

COLONEL M'MAHON.

Mr. WARD wished to know if the office of Keeper of the Privy Purse was a new office, and if there was a salary attached to it?

Mr. PERCEVAL presumed the Hon. Gentleman was aware that Colonel Taylor had held such a situation under the King, for which he received a salary. Colonel M'Mahon received the same salary from the Prince as Colonel Taylor had received for the same service under the King.

Mr. WARD wished to know what were the duties of this office?

Mr. PERCEVAL conceived the duties of it to be in some measure expressed by its name. They were those of a Private Secretary to the Regent.

Mr. WHITBREAD thought that such an Officer had only been appointed in consequence of the infirmities of the King, and if he was correct in this idea, it might have been hoped that such an Officer would not have been required by the Prince Regent. He wished to know whether or not the appointment of Colonel Taylor had ever been gazetted as a regular Court appointment, and whether the salary of Colonel M'Mahon was to be drawn from the same fund on which that of Colonel Taylor had been charged?

Mr. PERCEVAL did not believe that such an Officer attended the King before his infirmities were so great that he could not act for himself; but of late the business had so much increased, that if the House expected to see a Sovereign of Great Britain, who could do without such an Officer, he thought they expected that which they would never have.

Mr. WARD wished to know if the Right Hon. Gentleman had any objection to state who advised the appointment of Colonel M'Mahon?

Mr. PERCEVAL had no objection to answer the question of the Hon. Gentleman. It had been advised by himself.

THE PRINCESSES.—REGENT'S MESSAGE.

On the order of the day being read for the House resolving itself into a Committee on the Message of the Prince respecting the Princesses,

Mr. CREEVEY expressed a wish that the subject might be deferred, as he thought, before a new charge were laid on the public, it might be proper to look into the state of the revenue of the country. From the papers laid before the House by the Ministers up to Jan. 12, 1812, there appeared a disparagement in the accounts of last year of three millions and a half. On the Consolidated Fund there appeared a diminution of more than one million, while there was an increase of charge on it, to the amount of one million and a half. Though there was still a surplus of the Consolidated Fund remaining, did the Right Hon. Gentleman think it impossible for this to be exceeded by the increasing charges on the fund? In the event of such becoming the actual state of things, he wished to know in what way the Right Hon. Gentleman would propose to meet the exigencies of the case—whether by new taxes, by the interest of the Sinking Fund, or by any other expedient? He concluded by moving as an amendment, "That the House should on that day month resolve itself into the Committee."

Mr. PERCEVAL said, the Hon. Gentleman had again brought forward statements which might produce an improper impression on the public mind. The diminution of three millions and a half (or 3,600,000*l.*) which had been spoken of, was not the result of a proper comparison. Such might be drawn from a partial comparison of the last with the most productive year ever known; but instead of a diminution of 3,600,000*l.* properly speaking, there was but a falling off of 1,260,000*l.* The Hon. Gentleman had seemed to think the sum they were to be called upon [illegible] might have been easily spared out of [illegible] ht appear so to him, as he compa[illegible]y to the Princess of Wales, with the 58,000*l.* per annum which had been given to the Queen by the King. The fact, however, was, that the same deductions might be made from the Civil List in the hands of the Prince, as had been made from it when it was in the hands of the King, as her Majesty received her 58,000*l.* per annum as formerly. The Princess of Wales received 17,000*l.* exclusive of 5000*l.* pin money. In 1809, her debts had been stated to amount to 41,000*l.* The Prince, on that occasion, took her debts upon himself, and at the same time conceiving that they might have been contracted in consequence of the insufficiency of her income to meet her expences, he augmented it to seventeen thousand pounds. It was found on a farther investigation of the business, that her debts amounted to eight thousand pounds more, and this sum the Prince also took upon himself.—On a still more minute investigation of the subject, it was found that there was yet a small fraction more of two thousand pounds, and this last sum it had been thought reasonable that she herself should pay out of her increased income. The Hon. Gentleman thought there was now a large disposable fund in the hands of the Prince. This was not the case, as every part of his income which could be so applied had been given to a Commission for the purpose of liquidating his debts.

Mr. WHITBREAD had understood that the Princesses were to live with the Queen, and on this account it was, he conceived, that the addition of 10,000*l.* had been made to her Majesty's income. After the very liberal grants which had been recently made to the Royal Family, it might have been hoped that they would not have been called upon again so soon. As this was now done, however, they might shortly expect to be called upon to make an additional provision for the Princess of Wales. When they were told that the Prince had taken her debts upon himself, to prevent an application on the subject to Parliament, they could not forget that at the time he did this, his own debts were unextinguished, to pay which an arrangement had been made, of a nature the most injurious to the country; yet in the same breath that the Right Hon. Gentleman had told them of his Royal Highness's taking upon himself the debts of the Princess, he had informed them that 70,000*l.* had been entrusted to a commission to liquidate his own. Why, this to him appeared the most complete juggle for the public that was ever heard of, that a person should undertake to pay the debts of another to save the people that expence, while he came to get his own paid by that same public! On the commission appointed for the liquidation of his Royal Highness's debts, he would observe, that it was appointed by the Prince, and that it was revocable by him. Thus the Prince was now in possession of the Sovereign power, with 130,000*l.* per annum, as it were, in his privy purse, which he might apply as he pleased, notwithstanding the appointment of the commission which had been mentioned. Were they not to be as jealous of the Prince as they had been of the Crown itself? The utmost that had ever been allowed for the King's privy purse was 60,000*l.* He would ask, did the Right Hon. Gentleman hold himself responsible for the proper application of the money under the commission? Did he know that when by the 70,000*l.* so applied the whole of the Prince's debts were paid, that the 30,000*l.* per annum they were now to be called upon for would be repaid after a few years? For this he contended they ought to have security, but at present they had no security for it whatever. In his opinion it would be a better way to pay the whole of the Prince's debts at once, and let the annuity of 70,000*l.* be revoked.

The amendment was negatived, and the House then resolved itself into the Committee.

Mr. PERCEVAL having shortly taken a view of the present situation of the four Princesses, and of the provision formerly made for them in the event of his Majesty's demise, observed, that the melancholy events which had taken place, though certainly by no means to be regarded as a demise of the Crown, had the effect of placing them nearly in the same situation they would have been placed in by the actual demise of the Crown. He apprehended it would be necessary, in making a new provision, to set the former provision aside. It was his intention to propose, that to each of the four Princesses they should grant the

sum of 9000*l.* per annum, exclusive of what they received from the Civil List. He should therefore move for the sum of 36,000*l.* At the death of one of them he should propose, that the survivors should receive 10,000*l.* per annum each; at the death of a second, the two remaining to continue to receive 10,000*l.* each; and on the death of a third, the sole survivor to receive twelve thousand pounds per annum. This arrangement, the difference in the times considered, he did not think would appear to the House as proposing an unreasonable advance on the sum originally named as a provision for the Princesses. The sum named, he wished it to be understood, was to be divided among all the Princesses on the death of one of the others, and receive ten thousand pounds per annum, and the last survivor to receive twelve thousand pounds. He had no reason to suppose the Princesses would wish to remove from the establishment on which they were at present, but if they did not choose to remain there the whole year round, he thought it was unreasonable, at that period of life they had attained, they should not be allowed the means of forming an establishment of their own, or of changing their residence at any period of the year for their health, convenience, or pleasure. He concluded by moving, "That it is the opinion of this Committee that an annuity of 36,000*l.* be granted to the King, to enable him to make a provision for the Princesses Augusta, Sophia, Elizabeth, and Mary, instead of an annuity of 30,000*l.* formerly granted; to be payable out of the Consolidated Fund of Great Britain."

Mr. TIERNEY understood the present grant to give the Princesses 1500*l.* per annum more than formerly, making the total income of each, 13,000*l.* per annum. He did not say it was too much, but the former provision seemed to suppose that they were all to live together; while this seems to suppose they would prefer separate establishments. If they were still to continue on the Civil List Establishment, this appeared to him a measure merely to hand over to them 9000*l.* per annum to put in their pockets; and if they were to be taken from it, he thought some deduction ought to be made from the Civil List on that account. The 36,000*l.* which they were now called upon to vote, would make the sum total of the provision made for the Royal Family no less than 1,668,000*l.* a-year. He did not say that this provision was too great, but this he said, that they ought to look if they could not do with less. He thought there was much waste in the Civil List, and believed if a Committee were appointed with proper powers, a sum of no less than 86,000*l.* annually might be saved, without diminishing the splendor or the comforts of the Royal Family. He did not know why the Princess of Wales appeared in her present situation. It was said the Prince and Princess were separated. It might be so, but as a Member of Parliament he knew nothing of it.—There might be very good reasons for their being separate, but he did not know what they were. The Right Hon. Gentleman knew a great deal about it. He knew if the separation were just or not; but he (Mr. T.) was surprised to see his (the Chancellor of the Exchequer's) favourite Princess left on the scanty allowance she was at present, for a scanty allowance it was, if the provision made for the other branches of the Royal Family were not too great. Arrangements might have been made of a very amicable nature, but he knew nothing of them; but this he knew, that the wife of the Prince Regent, who represented the Queen as much as he (the Prince Regent) did the King, was allowed to be passed over unnoticed and neglected, under the protection of the Right Hon. Gentleman *who was formerly her loudest champion.—(Hear, hear!)*

Mr. W. SMITH could see no reason for adding to the burdens of the public, by making the proposed increase of provision for the Royal Family. He could see no advantage in the splendour which had been spoken of, and, he believed, the people of this country were better pleased with the blessings of the Constitution than with all the pomp of royalty. He had noticed that in the countries on the Continent this sort of splendour increased precisely in the proportion in which liberty, or the appearance of it, was diminished. The Queen's Establishment amounted to 58,000*l.* per annum, while that of the Princess of Wales did not exceed 22,000*l.* who was to be looked upon as ostensibly the Queen of the country. The splendour of the Crown, he thought, was not less concerned in the situation of her Royal Highness than in that of her Majesty.

Mr. PONSONBY said, that under all the circumstances, the present was a most unwarrantable and extravagant proposition.

Mr. FREEMANTLE thought the proposed measure was due to the Princesses, from the situation in which they stood, and the distinguished and amiable characters they possess.

Mr. BENNET could not agree that one shilling of the public money should be granted without previously enquiring into the state of any other fund supposed to be capable of furnishing it, especially in the present situation of the country, when every post contained some account of the wretchedness of our starving manufacturers. He hoped that some information would be given respecting the Princess of Wales—no one could be better informed than the Right Hon. Gentleman on what was called "the Delicate Investigation." He was at a loss to know why the same provision should not be made for her as for the Queen of George the Third? Why she should not be treated as a Queen of this Country? They had heard of "books" being suppressed which were intended for her vindication, and he could not suppose the Right Hon. Gentleman would desert his Friend at present in her utmost need.—*(Hear, hear.)*

Mr. PERCEVAL could not help noticing the contradiction between the sentence with which the Hon. Gentleman sat down, and that with which he rose. He had commenced with stating, than until certain conditions were complied with, he would not grant a shilling of the public money, and concluded with affirming, that some increase should be given to the Princess of Wales. With regard to the separation of the Royal Persons alluded to, *he should say nothing.—(Hear, hear, hear.)*—As to what had been said respecting the grant of the 10,000*l.* additional to the Queen, the Committee must be aware that it was entirely of a different nature from that now under consideration. Its object was to enable the Queen to meet expences which she would be likely to incur unconnected in any manner with the Princesses. There was no increase in the Civil List of the Prince of Wales above that of the King; on the contrary, there was a diminution. As to the Civil List itself, though it was perfectly understood in that House it was not in other places, and representations were often made as if the Civil List was entirely at his Majesty's disposal. When the Right Hon. Gentleman spoke of the increase to the Princesses, it might not be an extravagant demand, but it had nothing to do with the Civil List. An Hon. Gentleman had said, that a splendid allowance would be made to the Princesses if they would all live together, but he was sure the House would not be inclined to measure out its liberality on such an understanding.

Mr. WHITBREAD said, there was no impropriety in enquiring as to the situation of the Princess of Wales. The Right Hon. Gentleman had said, that he would state nothing on the subject; but the time was, when the Right Hon. Gentleman was not only willing to give information to every subject in the country, but had "a book" ready, which was to have gone, not only through the Public of this Country, but through all Europe. This book the Right Hon. Gentleman had since purchased up and suppressed, for what reason he knew not. Undoubtedly, as Council to her Royal Highness, he was in a situation the most natural to be called upon for information, though it was possible he might now remain mute, when he intended to have had ten thousand tongues before. But the Princess of Wales was not only inferior to the Queen in point of real income, but the Queen had the advantage of being also on the establishment with her husband. The Princess of Wales, on the contrary, was living in retirement, at Blackheath, for as to separation, though he and others had used the word, the public knew nothing more than that she lived in retirement; and now they knew that if ever matters came on a better footing, a fresh grant of money would be demanded. He should vote against the Resolution.

Mr. WYNNE complained, that notwithstanding all the money voted to support the splendour of the Crown, there should have been but one Court held this year; and maintained that the House should consider whether the 70,000*l.* applicable to

the payment of his Royal Highness's debts might not, some of it, be directed to other purposes.

Mr. HENRY THORNTON thought it right that the Princesses should have establishments, but no inconvenience could result from postponing the grant until after the Report of the Committee.

Mr. TIERNEY said, he felt himself justified by the silence of the Right Hon. Gentleman in assuming it as a fact, that the separation of the Prince and Princess of Wales had his sanction. (*A cry of no! no!*)—Then the Committee would do well to recollect, that the Princess of Wales had not one farthing of her own above 5000l. a year, but was indebted for all beyond it to the bounty of the Prince. Why ought not she to be rendered independent? The Right Hon. Gentleman was bound to inquire into this. He and the Lord Chancellor ought to know whether the enquiry had proved disgraceful or otherwise; and if disgraceful, ought to have withheld all. If his Majesty was to die, she would ascend the Throne. Did the Right Hon. Gentleman mean to say she was unfit to be Queen of this country? Why did he cast off one client for the purpose of taking a brief from another?—(*A laugh.*)

Mr. PERCEVAL said, that as to what he was bound to do, as far as it affected his own character and conduct, he should always judge for himself.—(*Hear, hear!*) He did not know with what view the Right Hon. Gentleman now came forward, but he had no objection to state, that neither in his character as Council to her Royal Highness, in which he had important duties to perform, nor as Minister, nor in any other capacity, did he see any means of bringing a charge against her Royal Highness, nor did he entertain any opinion calculated to throw the slightest reflection upon her. Further than this he should not state. As to the situation of her Royal Highness, he had no instruction to propose any additional grant; but if the Right Hon. Gentleman, who now for the first time suggested it, could induce Parliament to think favourably of such a measure, he should be inclined for one to give that disposition its full effect.

Mr. C. ADAMS thought the matter should be sifted to the bottom.

Mr. WHITBREAD observed that they had heard the Right Hon. Gentleman state but a few minutes ago, that no imputation could attach to her Royal Highness; but he should not forget that she did at one time stand stigmatized, that he was once about to publish in her defence, but that she still remained unvindicated.

Mr. ELLISTON objected to the manner in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer was catechised; he thought it *unparliamentary, indelicate*, and *highly improper*. The interference of the House in such a case was, like all interference between man and wife, ill judged.

Sir J. NEWPORT protested against the doctrine that the House was not justified in catechising the Minister, especially on all money grants. There was something mysterious in the transaction, as it appeared before the Public, and the questions he thought therefore proper. As to the book, he wished to know whether the Printer's name was to it, or whether, as had been reported, it was printed in the Right Hon. Gentleman's own House? (No reply.)

The Resolution was then agreed to.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, March 24.

Robert Campbell, of Walcot-place, Lambeth, who had been illegally arrested by one *Hindson*, whilst about to attend a Committee of the House of Commons, was brought up and discharged from arrest.

SINECURES.

Mr. BANKES obtained leave to bring in a Bill for abolishing and regulating Sinecure Offices executed by Deputy, and for providing other means of rewarding high and respectable civil offices.

CAPT. KING.

Lord FOLKESTONE entered on the hard case of Capt. King, who, though acting as a Lieut.-Colonel of Marines, had only Prize-money as a Lieutenant in the Navy. After some conversation, the consideration of the matter was adjourned till the 8th of April.

CAPT. TOMLINSON.

Mr. WESTERN moved for "Copies of all Letters and Informations to the Navy Board, which induced that Board to order a Prosecution to be instituted against Captain Tomlinson and W. Tanner."—The motion was negatived, on the opposition of the Ministers, though so necessary for the vindication of the conduct of the Navy Board.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, March 26.

A *Mr. Palmer*, brother-in-law to Mr. Campbell, was called in, having been arrested on Monday, by *Grace*, the Sheriff's Officer, while returning to the same Committee before which he had been summoned as a witness. On a full investigation of the case, it appeared that the breach of privilege committed originated merely in ignorance. After some discussion the Privilege of the House was extended to Palmer, and he was discharged from his arrest. Grace, the officer, was called in, and he was likewise liberated.

SICILIAN SUBSIDY.

Lord CASTLEREAGH moved a Resolution for the grant of 400,000l. to enable his Majesty to make good the Treaty entered into with his Sicilian Majesty.

Sir JOHN NEWPORT could scarcely believe that Ministers, who on former occasions had thrust themselves forward as the friends and supporters of existing establishments, should now attempt to justify the subversion of that of Sicily. Did the Noble Lord mean to assert, that it was not true that by means of the British Authorities the King had been induced to abdicate his throne in favour of his Son? Uninformed as he was upon the subject, judging only from appearances, he confessed that this proceeding did appear to him very similar to the conduct of Bonaparte, who forced Charles XIII. of Spain to abdicate his throne in favour of his son Ferdinand, and then took advantage of it to claim Spain as his own property.

Lord CASTLEREAGH replied, that there was not the slightest ground for stating, that it was even at the suggestion, much less upon the demand, of the British Minister, that the King of Sicily was induced to abdicate his throne in favour of his son; how it could be called an abdication he was at a loss to imagine, since it was merely a temporary delegation of power, which might at any time be resumed by his Majesty—on the motives to this act his Lordship would not give an opinion, but certain it was that it was wholly voluntary. The only claim made by Lord William Bentinck was, that the King of Sicily should put his Government upon such a footing as to make it compatible with the safety of the British army, that it should remain in the island. That any comparison was to be drawn between the conduct of Great Britain and that of France, it was ridiculous to contend, since while the latter had governed by lawless ambition, the former had been guided by unshaken fidelity. The steps taken by the Government of this country were justified by the paramount necessity of the case.

Sir JOHN NEWPORT answered, that it was not fit that Great Britain should justify her injustice by asserting that the actions of France were of a blacker dye. The Noble Lord maintained that paramount necessity dictated our proceedings in Sicily—necessity was the tyrant's plea—and how many countries had Bonaparte taken possession of and over-run, on the ground that the safety of his empire and the tranquillity of Europe required it. Many facts yet remained in the dark, doubtless, because they would not bear the light—among which was the banishment and restoration of the Barons suspected of intercourse with the enemy.

Lord CASTLEREAGH re-asserted that necessity alone had induced the British Minister, not, as was supposed, to overthrow the system, but merely to make a representation to the King of Sicily against the existing form of Government. The whole change that succeeded was voluntary, nor were the British authorities concerned in or responsible for it.

Mr. PERCEVAL said, that if the British Government had not waited until the present time before it interfered, the object would have been defeated, inasmuch as matters were not until

now ripe for the change accomplished. He admitted the fitness of removing from the British character the greatest of all stigmas cast upon us by our enemies, viz. that we were actuated by the same principles that governed them, if that might be called government which acknowledged no law. He was surprised, however, to find that the Right Hon. Baronet was the instrument by which these unfounded calumnies were circulated.

Sir JOHN NEWPORT maintained that it was a totally different thing to make terms with our Ally when he was independent, and when he had an army of 15,000 British soldiers in his territory. It was a very easy way of answering arguments, to accuse the individual employing them of improper motives: under certain circumstances he might be proud of the disapprobation of the other side of the House, more particularly when they endeavoured to deter him from the discharge of a public duty.

The question was then put, and the vote agreed to without a division.

MR. CHINNERY'S DEFALCATION.

Mr. BANKES complained, that the whole of the money voted for New South Wales (11,701*l.*) was in consequence of Mr. Chinnery's embezzlement. He lamented that the public accounts were not more correctly audited.

Mr. PERCEVAL admitted, that the case to which the Hon. Member had alluded was of the gravest complexion, and ought to be considered as a very severe warning to those who were entrusted with the examination of accounts. The conduct of the auditors would be found not so blameable as might at first be imagined, since Mr. Chinnery had ingeniously managed so to balance one account against another, as to render detection a matter of much difficulty.

Mr. ROSE felt himself called up, connected as he had been with the individual whose delinquency was under consideration, to give a short statement to the House. In 1783, upon a very strong recommendation from Lord Thurlow, to whom Mr. Chinnery had acted as Private Secretary, he procured him the place which he lately occupied. During three or four years the young man conducted himself with the greatest propriety, but after his marriage he involved himself in a train of expence, against which he (Mr. R.) remonstrated, but without effect. Mr. Chinnery seemed to increase yearly in extravagance, so that Mr. Rose became extremely uneasy as to the funds out of which he maintained himself, although Mr. Chinnery assured him, that, besides his salary, he had extensive means for his support. At last the Right Hon. Gentleman, finding his advice unavailing, abandoned him, and about 14 or 15 years ago all intercourse ceased. About a year and a half ago Mr. Rose felt it necessary to call the attention of the Secretary of the Treasury to the subject: the truth was, that Mr. Chinnery was then living in a scandalous way, wholly inconsistent with any honest means. Under these circumstances he (Mr. R.) wrote to the delinquent a very strong letter. Not a syllable could be urged in favour of Mr. Chinnery. Mr. R. never set foot in his house excepting once, when he stood Godfather to Mr. Chinnery's son, although he was frequently invited to splendid Concerts, attended by many persons of distinction. When Mr. Chinnery was asked how he could afford to give such entertainments, he was in the habit of saying, that the performers were happy to come to his house, and that they would receive no pay. A case of more deliberate guilt could not be conceived, and Mr. Rose lamented that the Embezzlement Bill, now before the House, had not passed, and included Mr. Chinnery's case, as a more fit object for exemplary punishment could not be selected.—Adjourned.

Thursday, March 26.

The Gold Coin Bill was read a second time, after considerable opposition from Mr PONSONBY, Lord A. HAMILTON, and Mr. W. SMITH, who protested against the measure as one which would inevitably lead to the ruin of the finances of the nation.—The second reading was carried by a majority of 61 to 16.—Adjourned to Tuesday, April 7.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

Whitehall, March 24.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been pleased, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, to constitute and appoint the Right Hon. Robert Viscount Melville; William Domett, Esq. Vice-Admiral of the White Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet; Sir Joseph Sydney York, Knight, Rear-Admiral of the Blue Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet; the Hon. Frederick John Robinson; Horatio Walpole, Esq. (commonly called Lord Walpole) the Right Hon. William Dundas; and George Johnstone Hope, Esq. Rear-Admiral of the Blue Squadron of his Majesty's Fleet, to be his Majesty's Commissioners for executing the Office of High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Dominions, Islands, and Territories thereunto belonging.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

J. M. and J. Mayor, Leadenhall-street, insurance-brokers, from March 21, to May 9.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. Biggs and S. Anstie, St. Andrew's-hill, wholesale-ironmongers.

BANKRUPTS.

J. S Fall, Threadneedle-street, broker.
J. Griffin, Kidderminster, stationer.
J. Vail, Upper East-Smithfield, ship-chandler.
J. Smith, sen. Sufton, Herefordshire, farmer.
J. Nattrass, Werdale, Durham, vintner.
P. H. Barker and J. H. Peacock, Burwell, Cambridgeshire, merchants.
M. Newsham, Ship-alley, Well close-square, umbrella-maker.
B. Rhodes, Chamomile-street, tailor.
D. Mahomed, George-street, Portman-square, tavern-keeper.
T. Watson, Sandhurst, Gloucestershire, corn-dealer.
W. Reeves, Great-bridge, Cheshire, dyer.
J. Marsh, Pilkington, Lancashire, dealer.
E. Fitton, Bolton-le-Moors, milliner.
W. H. Worthy, Manchester, merchant.
E. Sephton, Liverpool, draper.
W. Hunt, Throgmorton-street, factor.
J. E. Blewett, Great Saint Helen's, broker.
J. Russell, Cubbington-heath, Warwickshire, bleacher.
J. Pottinger, Birmingham, cordwainer.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

This Gazette contains two letters from Capt. Codrington, of the Blake. One gives an account of the defeat of a body of French troops by the Spaniards under the Baron d'Eroles, near Tarragona, when the Spaniards took 600 prisoners on this occasion, and left 200 Frenchmen dead on the field. The other details some trifling occurrences in the same neighbourhood, and states, "that the Spanish army has increased its exertions in proportion to the difficulties it has had to contend against."

The Gazette contains also a detailed account of the capture of the Pomone French frigate and the Persanne storeship (which was before announced), by the Alceste, Active, and Unite. The battle was a severe one, lasting two hours and 20 minutes. The French Commodore, in the Pauline, of 44 guns, got off; but the Captain of the Pomone (Rosamel) says Capt. Maxwell "fought his ship with a skill and bravery that has obtained for him the respect and esteem of his opponents."—The Alceste had 20 killed and wounded: Active, 32: Pomone, 50.—Capt. Gordon lost his leg, and Lieut. Dashwood his arm. The Unite had only one man wounded.—Messrs. Nourse and Osborne, midshipmen, were killed, and Lieutenants Wilson and Baye slightly wounded.

And Capt. Waldegrave transmits an account of the capture of the Decide, French privateer, of 2 guns, by the boats of the Volontaire, off Palamos, after a sharp resistance from the shore.

BANKRUPTS.

G. Taylor, Tynemouth, Northumberland, ship-owner.
G. Thornton, and W. Raper, Stockbridge, Sussex, tanners.
H. Makin, jun. Bildeston, Suffolk, grocer.
M. Sedgwick, Brompton, York, provision-factor.
J. Phillips, Edgware-road, timber-merchant.
J. Balls, Leighton-Bussard, Bedford, innholder.
A. Still, Mouldmakers-row, Gutter-lane, London, tailor,
W. Whetton, Bath, hatter.
W. Almond, Kingston-upon-Hull, grocer.
I. and C. Thorpe, Salford, Lancaster, shopkeepers.
J. Chapman, Newmarket, grocer.
J. P. de Souza Caldas and J. de Capiet, Clifford-street, Middlesex, wine-merchants.
J. Raines, Walcot, Somerset, druggist.
W. Dorrington, Cornhill, insurance-broker.
J. Pycroft, jun., Lloyd's Coffee-house, underwriter.
J. W. Biggs, Aveley, Essex, dealer and chapman.
C. Miller, Aldgate High street, London, silversmith.
J. Holt, Whalebone-court, London, victualler.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. . . ..59$\frac{1}{2}\frac{7}{8}$—Consols for Acc.··· 59$\frac{3}{8}\frac{1}{8}$

PHILANTHROPOS and other Communications as soon as possible.—The request of a CONSTANT READER cannot be complied with; not one Subscriber in a hundred would wish to see the columns of the Paper loaded with such announcements.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, MARCH 29.

BONAPARTE is increasing his military force by a fresh levy of 100 cohorts, of 1000 men each, who are to be employed in guarding the interior of his Empire, while his other armies are engaged in enforcing the "Continental System" and conquering "the Liberty of the Seas."—The British Naval Code is undoubtedly in opposition to the rights and maritime interests of Europe, and ought therefore to be amended; but to hear the FRENCH EMPEROR talk of fighting for *liberty* of any kind, is at once both lamentable and ludicrous.—It is conjectured that this measure is to enable the Oppressor to send such a power to the North, as will effectually put down all opposition, and enable him to garrison every sea-port in that quarter of the world. He is resolved to exclude British merchandize from Europe, and he sees that to carry his point he must not only be the conqueror but the custom-house officer of the Continent.

The Campaign on the Portuguese frontier is about to commence with the siege of Badajos by Lord WELLINGTON, or by Gen. HILL, under his orders.—In the absence of important news from Spain, the papers are putting forth the grand exploits of the Spanish Guerillas (who, be it remembered, do not amount altogether to 30,000 men); and the *Times* would make us believe that the deliverance of Spain was more probable than ever. When Tarragona was taken, then Tortosa was to stop the enemy. Tortosa fell, but then Murviedro would make an effectual resistance. Murviedro shortly surrendered. Ah, but Valencia is garrisoned by the gallant BLAKE, and the patriotic Valencians have sworn to die for their country.—The patriotic Valencians compelled the gallant BLAKE to *capitulate* with his whole army.—True; but Alicant is yet unsubdued, and the Guerillas are more active than ever!—So proceeds the farce; and while there is a single Spaniard in arms, or a single nook of Spain unconquered, so will the nation be deluded by idle hopes and exhausted by pernicious projects.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

"*War-Department, March* 29.

"A Dispatch has been received from the Earl of Wellington, dated Frenada, March 4.

"His Lordship had received advice of the defeat of a French corps, near Malaga, by Gen. Ballasteros—the General Officer who commanded the enemy's troops being killed in the action.

"Upon the 5th January, Espoz y Mina took Huesca, making the garrison prisoners. Having joined General Mendazabel and Don Francisco, near Sanguessa, their united forces engaged a large body of French troops, which had been sent from Pampeluna to attack Mendazabel, and completely defeated them, killing 600 of the enemy, and taking two pieces of cannon. In the latter end of February a detachment of Don Julian Sanchez's Guerillas intercepted an Officer and 80 French, between Alba de Torres and Salamanca. The enemy's party was entirely destroyed; and important dispatches, with which the Officer was charged, fell into the hands of the Spaniards, and were brought to Lord Wellington."

"We are enabled to state, that the following Ministerial arrangements will immediately take place. Lord SIDMOUTH is to be President of the Council, Lord BUCKINGHAMSHIRE President of the Board of Controul, and Mr. VANSITTART a Lord of the Treasury."—*Sun, March* 28.

The Nyaden frigate saw the Orient squadron on the 14th, in lat. 47. 30. long. 9. 20. W. She was chased by them, and was so near as to exchange shots with them. During the chace three large ships appeared to windward; they proved to be East Indiamen. The Nyaden fired guns and made signals to the Indiamen, and they took the alarm. The Nyaden then stood towards the enemy under a press of sail, with a view of making them believe they were line of battle ships, which had the effect, as they wore and stood away; but the Indiamen having made sail to escape, the enemy hove about, and again chaced the Nyaden, but she escaped by superior sailing. It is the opinion of the Officers that the Indiamen got clear off.

"It is supposed that the Orient squadron passed up Channel in a heavy gale of wind and thick weather, and got into Cherbourgh. An imperfect telegraph message was yesterday (Friday) received to that effect from Plymouth, but no particulars have yet reached the Admiralty."—*Sun.*

It appears that the trade to India is to be only partially opened, and that the China trade is still to be monopolized by the India Company. The announcement that the Company will want six millions sterling to pay off a part of their debts, has contributed to lower the funds.

The *Courier* now says that there have been no riots at Manchester. This paper first circulated the account. Has not the Proprietor yet done with the stocks?

Accounts from South America represent the revolution there to be carrying every thing before it.

Papers received from Virginia state it to be the general opinion, that war between America and Great Britain will not take place. Dreadful earthquakes have taken place in this province. The town of Natches has been swallowed up, with 4000 of its inhabitants!

Clark, the Attorney-General's Deputy, uttered such intemperate language against the Nottingham frame-breakers, that their Counsel objected to it as biassing the Jury. The Judge (Bailey) was of the same opinion, and the Deputy was stopped in his humane philippic. The prisoners were chiefly between 16 and 21 years of age.

In the House of Commons on Tuesday a question was asked of Mr. Perceval, by whose advice Colonel M'Mahon had been appointed Private Secretary to the Prince Regent: the Minister answered, by his; notice of a motion concerning this appointment was then given. The office of Private Secretary to the King originated in his Majesty's *blindness*; such a situation, paid out of the taxes, had never before been known. Is the Prince Regent blind also? We have now *two* Private Secretaries to pay.—*Stamford News.*

That the Daughters of the King of England should have an independency, will be allowed by all, and if their Royal Parents were unable to give it them, the people should. But how stands the case? Her Majesty is very rich—his Majesty is very rich;—and yet they apply to this suffering nation to provide for their children!—Talk of degrading Royalty, indeed!

Lord Melville has entered upon the duties of First Lord of the Admiralty.

The remains of the late Mr. Horne Tooke were on Friday taken to Church, borne by six poor men, who received a guinea each, and from thence were conveyed to his garden for interment. Sir Francis Burdett, Mr. Bosville, and Major Cratwright, attended the funeral. Mr. Tooke, it is said, had an annuity of 1500*l.* and his two daughters are to have an annuity of 500*l.*

On Friday afternoon (says a correspondent) as Mr. Heald, of Palace Yard, was walking in Hyde Park, arm in arm with Colonel Payne and a young lady, he was struck in the breast with a musquet ball fired by some inconsiderate person, near the Life Guard barracks, across the ride, as it was said, at a mad dog. The bullet passed through Mr. Heald's great coat, but luckily striking against a button of his under coat, it dropped to the ground, and no serious injury was received.

The liquor vaults of William Watson, Esq. of Wisbeach, having been much infested with rats, a trap was set, a few nights since, on the shelf, to destroy them. One was taken by the leg, and it is supposed the creature had made a spring to get back to his hole; the trap and him in consequence came down together, and struck against the cock of a piece of Hollands gin:—the liquor was thus set a running, and the amount of the loss is estimated at *fifty pounds!*—So much for rat-catching.

PIOUS PASTORS AND APPROVING PATRONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—I have read, with equal surprise and indignation, the case of the Rev. Dr. Richard Povah, as detailed in your's and the other public journals; and I beg permission to contrast with it the conduct of the Prelates; his opponents, in another case, the authenticity of which, if questioned, I pledge myself to demonstrate.

The Rev. Robert Edward Jones, late Acting Chaplain of Brigade, at the Cape of Good Hope, was superseded in that appointment, and recalled home, on the following charges, supported by affidavit, and transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief and Chaplain-General;—viz.

1st. That in administering the Sacrament of Baptism, he habitually omitted every part of the ceremony prescribed by the ritual, except the prayer consecratory of the water, and the baptismal form of words!

2nd, That, in reading the communion service publicly in the church, he omitted *four* of the commandments, and afterwards as publicly jested at the mess-table of a regiment, which had attended Divine Service on that occasion, "upon having taken away *four* of their *ten* hurthens!"

3rd. That, immediately before commencing Divine Service, he was publicly guilty of profane swearing and blasphemy, in presence of several officers and others, who were assembled for the purpose of attending such service!

4th. That, *for a wager*, he publicly in the church preached a sermon, written by a Dragoon Officer; and "that the audience, who were apprized of the circumstance, were laughing and audibly jesting upon it, during the time of his delivery of the said sermon."

5. That the said R. E. Jones having intended to ride his running-horse at the public races, and having been dissuaded on the ground of indecorum, *swore*, that if he did not himself ride, he would have a *Bishop* for his jockey:"—and, accordingly, he dressed his groom, who rode the race, "in a *black silk body*, with *white sleeves*."*

These, with several minor charges, were laid before the Prelates and the Chaplain-General, with reference to several respectable officers, now in England, for the generally *immoral* and *profligate* character of the *Reverend* R. E. Jones!

A circular letter of Gen. Calvert, dated 8th November, 1811, affirms, by order of the Commander in Chief,—"*The Chaplains to His Majesty's forces have been selected with the utmost care and circumspection, by the first Prelates in the country!*".

By the mediation and influence of the Honourable Lieut.-Gen. Henry George Grey, with the selecting Bishops, R. E. Jones, his protogee, ("Patrono Cliens, dignus Cliente Patronus.") has been gazetted, in the teeth of these authenticated Charges, *a Chaplain to his Majesty's Forces!* These are *facts*, of which I challenge contradiction; and on which comment is superfluous!—I am, Sir, your humble servant, Miso-Tyrannus.

P. S. R. E. Jones is appointed Chaplain to the Forces at the Isle of France, where are two Regiments, the 72d and 87th, who were witnesses at the Cape to Mr. Jones's grossly disgraceful conduct; and by the officers and men of which regiments he is held in the utmost contempt.—Much benefit and edification they will of course derive from the precepts and example of such a Spiritual Director!

* For Documents respecting these Charges, see the *Appendix* to "A Sermon for the General Fast,—5th Feb., 1812—by Lawrence Halloran, D. D. late Chaplain to his Majesty's Naval and Military Forces and Rector of the Public Grammar School at the Cape of Good Hope"—just published.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 112.

COVENT-GARDEN.

It is highly creditable to the taste of the public, that in spite of the largeness of this theatre, which at certain distances sets the ear and almost the eye itself at nought, the revival of *Julius Cæsar* continues to fill the house twice every week. The play is indeed, to use a theatrical phrase, excellently *got up*; and on the part of two of the principal actors, most excellently performed; so that what with the propriety of the costume, the splendour of the decorations, and the intellectual treat always to be found in SHAKSPEARE, the piece goes off in a very satisfactory manner; and an impression is left upon us of Roman manners and greatness,—of the appearance as well as intellect of Romans,—which to a young mind in particular must furnish an indelible picture for the assistance of his studies, resembling perhaps the clearness of local conception which is afforded us by a panorama.

"Of this tragedy," says Dr. JOHNSON, "many particular passages deserve regard, and the contention and reconcilement of *Brutus* and *Cassius* is universally celebrated; but I have never been strongly agitated in perusing it, and think it somewhat cold and unaffecting, compared with some other of SHAKSPEARE'S plays: his adherence to the real story, and to Roman manners, seems to have impeded the natural vigour of his genius." With all due respect to the powers of Dr. JOHNSON, this is a sorry piece of criticism; it is, at best, like most of his criticisms, only so much gratuitous opinion without analysis, without argument; but at bottom, I am afraid, it is an additional betrayal of his absolute unfitness for poetical criticism, at least with regard to works of a higher order. A writer, who by his own confession was insensible to Painting and Music, has at least very suspicious claims to become a critic; but when we see his taste so ready on all occasions to pollute itself with political prejudices,—when we find him really insensible to the infinite and glorious variety of MILTON'S numbers, and when he acknowledges, in the instance before us, that he feels no strengh of emotion in witnessing the workings of great minds in awful situations, in beholding the sudden downfall of guilty greatness, and in sitting with the patriot in his tent, during the silence of night, in the wakefulness of a noble affliction, and on the eve of the last struggle for liberty,—then he signs his own condemnation, and leaves us still in want, as we certainly are to this day, of a true critical authority with respect to our great poets. *Julius Cæsar*, with the exception of *Coriolanus*, has perhaps less of the poetical in it, than any other tragedy of SHAKSPEARE; but fancy and imagination did not suit the business of the scene; and what is wanting in colour and ornament, is recompensed by the finest contrasts of character. It is of itself a whole school of human nature. The variable impotence of the mob, the imperial obstinacy of *Cæsar*, the courtly and calculating worldliness of *Anthony*, the vulgar jealousy of *Casca*, the loftier jealousy and impatient temper of *Cassius*, the disinterestedness and self-centered philosophy of *Brutus*, seem to bring at once before us the result of a thousand different educations, and of a thousand habits, induced by situation, passion, or reflection. *Brutus*, however, is clearly the hero of the story, and as GILDON observes, should have given his name to the piece; for *Cæsar* appears but in two short scenes and is dispatched at the beginning of the third act; whereas *Brutus*, after his first interview with *Cassius* in the commencement of the play, is the arbiter of all that succeeds, and the predominant spirit to the last.

[*Of the Performance, next week.*]

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FINE ARTS.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

110, 119, 120, 122, *Cottages in Devonshire*, and 123, *Cottages near Windsor*, G. JONES, are pictures of imposing effects of colour. The best of them are 110 and 120, for their glowing yellows and reds are tempered by a due admixture of cooling greys. But the best parts in Mr. JONES' Landscapes are the figures, which though very carelessly executed, are always very characteristically introduced.—His *Llanabar Church*, No. 9, is a piece of rich colour without gaudiness, the bright hues not being too prevalent.—His *Farriers Shop at Fair Hill*, 73, has a pleasing and chaste effect of well balanced grey and warm tints.—58 and 68, *Sheep-shearing*, and 12, *Sheep-washing*, T. BARKER, exhibit the bold relief of objects on a clear summer day. There is a pleasing simplicity and breadth and clearness in the different hues, and the actions and characters of the figures are easy and highly appropriate. There is an air of truth in Mr. T. BARKER'S rustic subjects which makes us regret that while aiming at a high degree of simplicity, he sometimes degenerates into a coarseness of manner, of which Miss HAY'S *Tired Boy*, No. 69, is a dauby imitation.

152. *Durham Cathedral.*—This picture adds much to the celebrity so justly acquired by Mr. GLOVER, especially in those pieces in which he introduces sunshine. By means of the richness, depth, and harmony of the chiaroscuro and colour, with which he has exhibited the admirably drawn objects of this piece,—the masterly arrangement of the golden lights that stream from the solar orb, and brilliantly illuminating the sky, tinge the delicate flickering clouds, and pour a flood of radiance on the blue tinted hills,—the aerial delicacy with which the middle and back-ground objects retire from the deeper toned ones in front, suffused as they also are by the sunny rays,—and, in fine, the magnificent attitude of the cathedral above the city, all render this picture worthy of CLAUDE himself.

When it is considered that 161, *Horse and Goats*, AB. COOPER, is the production of an untutored servant, recently of MEUX'S Brewery, one cannot but admire the air of nature with which it is pourtrayed. Much richness of produce may be justly expected from a soil so spontaneously vigorous.—156, *Gretna Green*, is a spirited little grey-tinted view of that love-linking spot, and does credit to the variously muse-devoted mind of the Director, Mr. SCHORE.—Beauty or sublimity of composition, rich but ostentatious colouring, cheerful and forcible but unsophisticated light and shade, are ever to be expected in the works of Mr. R. R. REINAGLE. They are found in 150, *a View of Rydol Lake, and House and Park of Sir M. le Fleming.* Over a cluster of trees of unsurpassed grace, where the warm autumnal hue is mingled with the lingering summer green, the house appears among trees at the foot of a hill that borders Rydol Lake, beyond which rise some stately hills. The glow of an evening sun tinging parts of the Landscape, and the heated atmosphere, are beautifully and naturally expressed.

194, *School-boys trying their Boats*, J. J. Chalon. Firmness, richness, and facility of pencil, judicious breadth of light and shade, chaste tones of colour, natural and simply graceful foliage, and a striking air of truth, characterise this beautiful painting. The effect of sunshine contrasts with richness and force the greyish green masses of foliage. Such appropriate figures as are here introduced, are not commonly seen in Landscapes.—78, *A Scene on the Road to Aylsham*, and 146, *A Road Scene with Gypsies*, R. Ladbrooke, are chaste, grey tinted Landscapes, with a striking appearance of nature, but rather hard in the edges of the trees.

Artists' Fund.—On Tuesday the members and friends of the Artists' Benevolent Fund, to the amount of about 170, held their annual dinner at the Freemason's Tavern, where the utmost conviviality and harmony prevailed.—The collection was honourable to the meeting, amounting to above 250*l*. Mr. Christie, of Pall-Mall, presided, and his address, when prefacing the toasts, was eloquent, feeling, and forcible.—It is every way gratifying to witness the growing prosperity of this Institution. Its object is to rescue from despondency the helpless widows and children of meritorious artists, when oppressed by poverty or struggling with sickness. Mr. Soane and Mr. West are liberal contributors; but the Royal Academy, as a body, has not sent a sixpence, though it possesses such ample means.—If the Academy devoted its large revenue solely to the encouragement of *art*, no one would wish to see one shilling otherwise used; but as it is chiefly applied to the benefit of individuals of its own body, to enlarge its sphere of charity would exhibit a spirit of disinterestedness, for which, it must be confessed, it has hitherto not been very remarkable. One week's profits of the ensuing Academy Exhibition would be of infinite service to the rising fund; the Academy can well spare such a donation; and as "charity covers a multitude of sins," that Body would indeed be great gainers by the gift.

R. H.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

It is notorious that the Prince Regent pays constant visits at the residence of the Marchioness of Hertford, in Manchester-square; and the *Courier* of Wednesday last, in an article on the charge of Favouritism brought by the Whigs against his Royal Highness, contains the following most curious and naked admission:—"Perhaps the reproach of Favouritism is intended, not against Ministers, but against private persons, against the Marchioness of Hertford, whose influence over the Regent is said to be great. Lord Grey resorts to the hacknied cant of "something behind the throne greater than the throne itself," thus countenancing, by his high authority, the scandal with which the Journals of his party teem. Upon this subject we pretend to no information; but taking it for granted, that the Marchioness of Hertford does influence, by her advice, the conduct of the Regent—what then?—Any Peer can advise the Sovereign, and other persons may—the Ministers alone being responsible for the advice, if they act upon it. It was well observed the other day by a Morning Paper, that the Marchioness of Hertford is just as eligible for advising the heads of a Party as the Duchess of Devonshire, who was held in such veneration for her services to Opposition, particularly for keeping the Prince of Wales in their interests. Nay, we will go further, and affirm, that, whether by mind or education, by pursuits or by habits, by dignity of character, or virtue of conduct, the Marchioness of Hertford is far from being the least capable of the two to give good counsel. On this subject, as we said before, we pretend to no information; but if we are to consider the conduct of affairs as the result of the Marchioness of Hertford's advice, we shall most sincerely pray for her, as Britain's guardian angel. If it be that Lady, who has persuaded the Regent to continue in power the servants of his Father's choice, and to conduct himself so dutifully as a Son, so patriotically as a Prince, we hope to hear of his Royal Highness's visits at Manchester-square every day in the week."

SECRET INFLUENCE.

Mr. Examiner,—I live at a village at a distance from the metropolis, where I, with a few honest neighbours, meet every Tuesday evening at our club, to read your paper, and to audit the weekly accounts of our Representatives and Governors. Earl Grey, in his speech on Lord Boringdon's motion, said, there was a secret and destructive *influence* behind the throne, which would prove the ruin of the empire. We are at a loss to guess what it can be, and would be very much obliged to you, or any of your correspondents, to inform us. We suppose it must be something supernatural—some magician or sorceress;—for it is the general opinion in this part of the country, that the Regent is bewitched. Why does not Lord Grey expose "this cause of all our woe?" He has the spear of Ithuriel, and should touch it again and again, till it starts forth in its own form—for it must be

> ——— A monster of so frightful mien,
> As to be hated—needs but to be seen.

Whatever this *something* may be, we ought not to rest till it is dragged to public view. We all wish to adhere strictly to the social contract, but we have

> "Never slavish dream'd,
> That toiling millions must resign their weal
> And all the honey of their search, to such,
> As for themselves alone, themselves have rais'd."

L. M. N.

THE WIGS.

Friday Evening, March 27.

Mr. Examiner,—I have just received your paper of last Sunday, from which a man might be led to imagine that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent has totally abandoned the *Wigs*. As an intimate friend of the peruke-maker to his Royal Highness, I beg leave to assure you, that the report is entirely without foundation. So far from an abandonment of *Wigs* by his Royal Highness, I can most positively assert, that he wears not only *one* but *four* at a time! This may appear strange to common minds, Mr. Examiner, but it is no more strange than true, as my friend the peruke-maker to his Royal Highness can well vouch. One wig is clapped on the right side; one wig on the left side; one wig behind; and one wig before; forming the *grand juvenile curl*.—If any of your readers, Mr. Examiner, should doubt my veracity, let them but apply to my friend the perruquier, and they will find it to be Gospel.—And so, I am, Mr. Examiner, with great respect, your admirer,

J. S.

Pall-Mall.

A GHOST.

About two years ago, accounts appeared in the various Newspapers respecting a Tax-gatherer in St. Luke's Parish, who had disappeared, and as it was reported that he had been robbed and murdered, a reward was ineffectually offered for the discovery of the villains. Taxes to the amount of several hundred pounds were at the same time unaccounted for.—A Correspondent writes, that the Tax-gatherer's family,—being of course well assured of his death,—went into mourning for him, but that a few days ago, to the great surprise of some, and to the no less annoyance and terror of others, a *Figure*, in every respect resembling the *deceased*, was observed in a shop in Old-street, to all appearance quietly transacting business, and the *Figure* was actually spoken to by a courageous inhabitant.—Satisfied that this appearance was altogether a delusion, and not a man in St. Luke's being mad enough to suppose that the dead could come to life in this world, some Parishioners have circulated the following Notice:—

"*St. Luke's, Middlesex.*

"APPARITION.

"Whereas the *Ghost* of Mr. Clarke, formerly of this parish, who was inhumanly and barbarously Murdered about two years ago, hath lately appeared to several persons in the said parish, to the great terror of the women and children thereof!!—*This is to give notice*, that all persons to whom the said *troubled Spirit* may hereafter appear, are hereby required to speak to it, in order that the perpetrator of so foul a deed may be discovered and brought to justice, and the public revenged for the loss of an *honest* Taxgatherer.—Information may be given to the celebrated Man-Midwife and *Matter*. N. B. The rewards previously offered will be paid on conviction of the *Murderer*."

CITY.—COMMON HALL.

The Livery met at Guildhall on Thursday, when Mr. WAITHMAN moved the following Resolutions, which were almost unanimously carried. The Speakers on this occasion were the Lord Mayor, the City Representatives, and Messrs. Dixon, Berry, Favell, and Waithman.—The Resolutions contain the sentiments of the Reformists, and the arguments of the Corruptionists are altogether too stale for repetition here.—It is however worthy notice, that when Sir James Shaw asserted, that "he was convinced that a more WISE GOVERNMENT, or a more HONEST PARLIAMENT, never existed," the Hall re echoed for some minutes with shouts of laughter, hisses, and groans.

In a Meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen and Liverymen of the City of London, in Common Hall assembled, at the Guildhall, on Thursday, March 26, 1812—

Resolved—1. That we have long seen and felt, with the deepest concern and anxiety, the prevalence and baneful effects of a corrupt and unconstitutional influence in the administration of the Government, equally dangerous to the honour and independence of the Crown, and to the liberty and happiness of the People.

2. That among other pernicious effects of this system, the public resources have been dissipated in wild and disgraceful projects, in numerous frauds and peculations, in useless places, pensions, sinecures, and reversions, and in expensive establishments, having no apparent object but the increase of Ministerial patronage, creating an oppressive and overwhelming weight of taxation, rendered doubly grievous by the inquisitorial and arbitrary mode of its exaction.

3. That we have seen a delusive and factitious paper currency substituted in place of the valid coin of the realm, and the pernicious progress of measures and laws designed to give a forced value to such unnatural currency, evidently indicating the approaching confusion of the public finances, and the ruin of the public creditors.

4. That under the protection of a corrupt influence, which undermines all public spirit and principle, we have witnessed the most shameless and insulting disregard of public opinion, degrading instances of which have been the screening from justice two individuals, who were then and now are Ministers of the Crown, and who have been openly charged with corrupt trafficing in Seats in the House of Commons: by the refusal to inquire into the calamitous and disgraceful Expedition to Walcheren; and in the re-appointment of the Duke of York, against the unequivocal sense of the Nation.

5. That we have long suffered under an impolitic and ruinous system of restrictions on commerce, which, by an unhappy policy, have converted the impotent threats of the enemy into a substantial injury, and to which is to be attributed the almost general ruin of our Merchants, and the starving and wretched condition of the population of the manufacturing districts, who, driven to despair, claim relief in a change of system, instead of an extension of our already sanguinary penal code.

6. That we have seen foreign mercenaries introduced into our armies, and placed in command over Englishmen, at a time in which a great portion of our fellow subjects are denied a participation of the very privileges which these Foreigners enjoy.

7. That we have for a series of years made many earnest representations of our grievances by Petitions to the Throne, and to both Houses of Parliament, none of which have yet been redressed; on the contrary, we observe an increased determination to resist inquiry, to protect abuses, and to screen from punishment public delinquents and open violators of the Law and the Constitution, while the Right of Petitioning and the free access to the Throne, secured by the Bill of Rights, have been denied to the People, and the public Press has been either corrupted or persecuted.

8. That these, and all other oppressions and grievances, are solely to be attributed to the corrupt and inadequate state of the Representation of the People.

9. That from the *avowed hostility* of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent to the system so long pursued, and from *a reliance on his own declarations*, we patiently bore with these grievances, looking forward with anxious solicitude to the period, when his Royal Highness should accede to the full and unrestricted exercise of his powers, as the dawn of a new era, when it was expected those radical changes would have been effected, which the feelings and sufferings of the People, and the actual state of the Empire, so imperiously demanded.

10. That it was with no less grief than astonishment we learnt that, *notwithstanding the Pledges which had been given*, his Royal Highness had determined to continue those Ministers in office, whose malversations and corruptions had been rendered as notorious as the sun at noon day—who had uniformly evinced a total disregard of all public principle—and whose practices had been chiefly directed to the corruption of Parliament, and their own aggrandizement—thereby extending and confirming that hateful system which had entailed so many miseries on the Country.

11. That the continuance of such Ministers in the service of the Crown and of the Public, destitute as they are of the smallest claim to support on any public principle, can be attributed only to the most disgraceful intrigues, and to *the pernicious influence of a despicable Faction behind the Throne*—afflicting to a loyal and intelligent People, and portentous to the welfare of the Empire.

12. That an humble and dutiful Address and Petition be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, representing our numerous grievances, and praying that his Royal Highness will be pleased to dismiss his present evil advisers, and to call such men, and such men only, into the public service, as stand pledged to his Royal Highness and the Country, to devote their exertions in effecting the salutary reformations which are so imperiously required—to correct those abuses and corruptions which have taken root in every department of the State—and

to accomplish that radical and effectual Reform in the House of Commons which shall make it truly speak the independent and loyal feelings of the People, rather than remain the convenient engine of the sinister views and corrupt measures of any Minister for the time being.—[The Address and Petition to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent was read and agreed to.]

Resolved—That the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and a Deputation of 21 Liverymen, attended by the Recorder and City Officers, be desired to present the said Address to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

Resolved—That the Representatives of this City in Parliament be instructed to support the principles of the said Address and Petition in their places in Parliament.

COMMERCE—EAST INDIAN MONOPOLY.

Speech of Thomas Attwood, Esq. High Bailiff, at the Meeting convened at the Royal Hotel, Birmingham, March 4th, 1812, respecting the East India Charter:—

(Concluded from last week.)

"Gentlemen, I will review the history of the East Indin Company. In the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, when the true principles of commerce and of political economy were very imperfectly understood, and when every species of monopoly was bought and sold, this most baleful of all monopolies was first originated. Three fifths of the globe, and of the whole population of the globe, were leased out to a company of merchants, with as much indifference as you would lease out a farm or a garden. For the first hundred years, the charter was supported and renewed by all manner of bribery, and by practices which, however the morality of the present age may be censured by thoughtless persons, would not be possible to be practised now. About the reign of Queen Anne, a new company started up, and by the loan of two millions to Government, obtained an Act of Parliament, recreating and confirming this most monstrous and unnatural monopoly. The old company did, however, contrive to get itself incorporated with the new, and under the name of the United Company, the business for the last hundred years has been carried on.

"Of this latter period I know little but from Dr. Adam Smith, who informs us, that until the commencement of its sovereign authorities, in about the year 1741, it acted in some slight degree as a tolerably efficient commercial body, continuing to pay from its real profits a moderate dividend upon its capital; but that ever since that period, it has gradually and necessarily deteriorated, until at last it is overwhelmed with losses, and debts, and establishments, and wars, and has altogether sunk its commercial in its sovereign character.

"In the year 1768, the Company's revenues were three millions per annum, and the profits upon their trade did then amount to about half a million a year. In the year 1810, the Company's revenues were increased to fifteen millions, and yet they have a loss upon their trade, a loss upon their exports, a loss upon their imports. We have the evidence of the Court of Directors themselves, that they have generally lost upon their exports ever since the year 1793. We have evidence equally undoubted, that, notwithstanding the enormous monopoly prices which they charge upon their goods, they now lose some hundred thousands per annum upon their imports. And how is it possible that they should not lose? How is it possible, that under these circumstances, they should be desirous to push their trade? No wonder that their imports have fallen off one half in the last ten years, and their exports nearly in an equal degree. But, in truth, it is ridiculous to talk of their exports. What is an exportation of two millions of British goods to those immense Continents that are washed by the Indian and Pacific Oceans? Why, Gentlemen, if the trade to the East were thrown open, we should in ten years time export half that amount in Birmingham goods alone. It appears that Birmingham will experience greater benefit from the opening of the trade, than any other town in the kingdom. The articles manufactured in Birmingham have been infinitely too multitudinous and minute for the attention of the East India Company, and consequently none have been exported. All the Birmingham goods that have been exported to the East (excepting a few muskets and a little ironmongery, and perhaps ten thousand per annum by the Captains of ships) have been exported by the merchants of Amsterdam, who, until the capture of Batavia, had continued to export a few, in defiance of all the difficulties and dangers attendant upon the trade. It is thus that the capture of Batavia will prove a loss to Birmingham, unless it is rescued from the commercial monopoly of the East India Company.

"Gentlemen, the characters of merchants and of princes are utterly incompatible. I quote the words of Dr. Adam Smith: 'it is the interest of the East India Company considered as Sovereigns, that the European goods, which are carried to their Indian dominions, should be sold there as cheap as possible, and that the Indian goods which are brought from thence should bring there as good a price as possible. But the reverse of this is their interests as merchants. As Sovereigns their interest is exactly the same with that of the country which they govern. As merchants their interest is exactly opposite to that interest.' Dr. Smith also, in his celebrated work, repeatedly expresses the most marked disapprobation of the East India and of all other monopolies.

"Hear likewise what Hume says upon the subject of monopoly; I quote his words from recollection: 'If the system of granting commercial monopolies had continued but a few years longer, England, the seat of arts, and industry, and wealth, and power, would have been reduced to the situation of Tunis and Algiers.'

"The opinions also of the Marquisses Cornwallis and Wellesley, the two most illustrious statesmen that ever governed India, are decidedly hostile to this monopoly. What authorities can the East India Company produce in defence of their monopoly, that can be placed in competition with such authorities as these?

"Let the East India Company keep their sovereign power, if they will; but let them be compelled to give up their monopoly; and why should they refuse to give it up? They have not the power to profit by it; they will only give up a loss, and their just dividends will be increased by so doing.

"How such an anomalous mixture of sovereignty and commerce and monopoly has so long been permitted to continue, I am at a loss to comprehend. I can only attribute it to a plethora in the happiness of the people, who having sufficient employment in other trades, have unwittingly reserved this immense field as a resource in the last extremities of commerce.

"Gentlemen, I have heard it said, that the East India Company do carry on the trade of the East to as great an extent as it admits, and it is certain, that they are compelled by their Charter to export a certain quantity of copper, and of coarse woollens; were it not for this, it is likely that the whole amount of their exports would be almost confined to the mere exportation of stores for their troops.

"But look to the exports of the Americans, and other neutral nations. I have evidence before me to shew, that in the year 1805, these neutral nations exported five millions of goods to the ports of India alone. I have the evidence of the Court of Directors to shew, that those neutral nations have 'forestalled' the exportation of European goods to India.

"Will it be said, that the 'forestalling' of these European exports to India has been the necessary consequence of the shutting of the continental port against our return proceeds? I answer, that the East India Company do not even send out exports sufficient to cover their own imports into England, and that a great proportion of the return proceeds of the goods exported by those neutral nations, have been sold, not in the closed ports of the Continent, but in our own West Indian islands and the Brazils, and in the ports of the Mediterranean, where the East India Company has not been able to contend with individuals. And how should they be able to contend with individuals? A merchant must make commerce every thing; or commerce will make him nothing. If commerce is to be profitable, it is necessary that its utmost extremities should be animated by individual interest, and that all its operations should be carried on upon a rigidly œconomical and vigilant

system. But none of this is possible in a joint stock company. I have here the calculations of Lord Valentia, to shew that the charges upon exporting a mere cargo of coffee from Mocha to the Mediterranean (its chief market) cost the India Company thirty thousand pounds, at the same time that the same charges cost an American merchant but from twelve to fifteen thousand pounds. The American ships of eight hundred tons burthen navigate the Eastern seas with from seven to twenty seamen for their crew, whilst the ships of the East India Company, for political and military purposes of one kind or other, carry from one hundred to one hundred and forty seamen. I have here calculations of the expence of importing several other articles of Arabian produce into England, which yield an apparent profit of one to three hundred per cent. but all this immense profit is either engrossed by neutral individuals, or altogether consumed in the enormous expences of the East India Company. And, Gentlemen, if the East India Company can make no profits upon their imports, it is not from their neglecting to charge an extravagant monopoly price upon them. There are Gentlemen in this room, who can prove, that if the American merchants were allowed to bring teas into England, though subject to all the Government duties, we should be able to purchase those teas at fifty per cent. cheaper than we can buy them from the East India Company. There are Gentlemen in this room who can prove, that the American merchants do now smuggle teas into Canada, and sell them fifty per cent. cheaper than the East India Company can sell them, although all the English duties are taken off by the drawback.

"It is thus that the people of England are on the one hand deprived of the natural right which they possess, of trading to all countries at peace with England; and, on the other, are compelled to pay a monopoly price for East India goods, as the purchase money, as it were, of their own injuries.

"It is thus that an Empire, bought with the blood of so many Englishmen, and a trade which has constituted the wealth and the strength of so many nations, ancient and modern, have become worse than useless to the British People.

"But the advocates of the East India Company will say, that although neutral individuals have forestalled their exports to the East, yet British individuals can never trade there to advantage, inasmuch as they do not now occupy the whole of the three thousand tons of shipping for the private trade, which the East India Company are, by their Charter, obliged to provide them. Ridiculous assertion! as if British merchants were not equal and superior to any other merchants in the world. There are gentlemen in this room who can prove, that this three thousand tons allowed for private trade, is clogged with such difficulties and delays, and expences and disappointments, that a profit of one hundred per cent. would not induce them to undergo them. I will only mention one instance out of a thousand of equal importance. Why, Gentlemen, if you would ship goods to India, you must give notice in August for the shipping that you shall want in the March following. And yet, under difficulties of this nature, the private trade (though confined to India alone) has flourished, and does flourish, which is proof sufficient to what an extent it might be carried were it left, as it ought to be, perfectly free.

"I know, Gentlemen, it has been said, that the trade to the East does not admit of any considerable extension, because the habits and manners of the East are altogether different from our own. Certainly they are different; but if their habits and manners are different, their population is infinitely greater than our own. Five hundred millions of souls, inhabiting countries of every climate, are included in the monopoly of the East India Company. Is it possible that such a population as this, occupying regions from the Southern Ocean to the extremity of the North, can furnish no market for British goods, and no article for British consumption?

"Without dwelling upon the immense trade that the Portuguese and the Dutch formerly carried on, or upon that which is now carried on by the Americans, from our own ports of Bristol and Liverpool, I will recur at once to the general principle of things.

"Providence, in creating empires, and in separating them by the sea, has bound them together in chains of indissoluble interest. Let mutual interest have an unfettered operation, and mutual intercourse will quickly create reciprocal wants and necessities. Those wants and necessities are the foundations of Commerce, but Commerce will never create itself. It must be created by individual exertion, stimulated by individual interest. What would have been the amount of our exports to the United States of America, if those exports had been confined to a joint stock company? Instead of exporting ten millions per annum, as we now do to the United States, when the intercourse is open, we should, in all probability, never have exported more than one million. So it is in a great degree with the trade to the East. When your merchants shall carry out your patterns to the cities of the East, and shall return for your inspection samples of the different articles in common use there, they will create a taste and demand for your manufactures, or will enable you to manufacture the articles already in request; and it is not likely that they will find much difficulty in obtaining return proceeds that will find ample markets in England, in the Mediterranean, in the West Indies, and the Baltic. We have every reason to expect, from a variety of information, that grain, raw cotton, hides, hemp, and many other articles, can be brought to this country in exchange for our woollens and cottons, and hardwares of every description.

"A great deal has been said about the difficulties of opening a considerable trade with China, but the Americans have, in a great degree, overcome those difficulties—difficulties vanish before individual energy. If the Chinese Government will not suffer our merchants to enter their ports, they cannot prevent them from forming depots of British goods in the islands upon their coasts, and the Chinese, who are a nation of smugglers, will not fail to create a demand for those goods, and to send out suitable cargoes in return.

"Gentlemen, in the year 1792, the late Mr. Garbet, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, corresponded with a Committee at Liverpool, under the sanction of Lord Macartney, upon this very subject. The island of Formosa was then fixed upon, but some difficulties prevented the accomplishment of the plan which they had in view. We have now the island of Java, situate on the great high road between India and China, and containing a population of thirty millions of souls. The city of Batavia contains also one hundred thousand Chinese inhabitants. Let that city, or some other more healthy place, be made a depot for British merchandize and manufactures, and we shall not long be in want of facilities for Chinese commerce. Of what that commerce might become, we may form some estimate from Sir George Staunton, who says, that the city of Pekin alone, if a free trade was permitted by the Chinese, would consume all the cutlery manufactured in Sheffield.

"Gentlemen, I am trespassing too long upon your attention. The East India Company have a monopoly of all the shores and Continents of the vast Pacific Ocean!!!—Why not give them the little brooks and currents of the Atlantic? They will then have the whole globe. Of what use is to us the dominion of the sea, if the sea is to be shut to our merchants? But the sea will be shut no longer.—The necessities of the People have awakened them to a sense of their interests and their rights, and from one extremity of the Empire to the other, the public voice will be heard in a way that will never be resisted."

MARRIAGES.

On the 22d, at St. Mildred's Church, Mr. George Upton, of Finsbury-place, to Frances, eldest daughter of Mr. Thomas Swift, of the Poultry.

On Tuesday last, Mr. John Frampton, of Hunt's Coppice, near Highworth, Wilts, to Miss Susan Jenner, of Bury Town, in the same county.

On Friday, at Louth, John Gillingston, of Barrow, aged 69, to widow Wright, of Louth, aged 69, a collector of rags. It happened to him, that in searching her rag bag, he found some fine paper, manufactured from rags, to the amount of 100*l*.!!

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